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MARKET REPORT ON PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES

Poland--- Budgetary 1951 investments ~~amounted to 19 billion zlotys~~ amounted to 19 billion zlotys of which 76.4 percent were allocated to industry and 10.1 percent to agriculture (a 28-percent increase over 1950). Similar increases are listed for other branches of the economy.

The Czystochowa Combine (exceeded in size only by Nowa Huta) is to produce 1.1 million tons of steel annually after its completion 4 years hence. Some of the principal installations of this plant are listed. The entire project was planned by Polish engineers and built by Polish firms. Steel Mill Number 2, with a capacity of 360,000 tons, was put into operation a short time ago.

On the basis of a trade agreement with Poland (expiration date of agreement 31 July 1952), Austria is to deliver ball bearings, high-grade steel, and other hard goods, amounting to 20 million dollars. Finished goods make up 70 percent of the Austrian shipments. The quantities or dollar values of the export items are listed. -- Polish shipments to Austria are to consist of black coal (1 million tons, constituting 80 percent of all export goods), sugar, eggs, and pigs. "In spite of Marshall Plan aid, Austria retains freedom of action because of Austria's special situation."

Czechoslovakia-- During the first half of 1951 the Western countries participated in 43.2 ~~per~~ percent of the total volume of foreign trade, or 5 percent less than during the comparable period in 1950. Since the total foreign trade volume rose by 30 percent from 1950 to 1951, the actual value of foreign trade with Western countries increased. No less than 71.8 percent (as against 68.2 percent during the same period in 1950) of total imports from Western countries were plant installations, machines, and raw materials. West Germany participated in this trade to a negligible degree only.

Under a trade agreement with a total volume of 13 billion French francs, France was to deliver (figures in million French francs): Ball bearings -- 100; high-grade and special steel -- 100; machine tools and spare parts -- 400; plant equipment -- 60; machines for the chemical and foodstuffs industries -- 110; automobile undercarriages -- 160; and electrical equipment -- 115. Raw phosphates (95,000 tons) is a very important item in French exports to Czechoslovakia.

Czech shipments are to include: Coke, kaolin, oil seed, textiles, rubber goods, chinaware, glassware, machines, and precision instruments. A large part of the goods is to be shipped to North Africa.

Hungary-- The Diosgyor Foundry is to be enlarged.

China -- Radical changes took place in China's foreign trade during 1951. Imports of consumer goods played only an insignificant part in foreign trade; preference was given to investment goods and raw materials. Percentage figures for the most important Chinese imports are listed. The progress made by some sections of Chinese industry is expressed in percent of 1950 figures [output or plan ?].

USSR -- The West European shipbuilding industry accepted considerable orders from the USSR. For example, Holland received an order to build 25 ships. It is assumed that part of the shipbuilding plate which is delivered to Holland from the Ruhr area is used for Soviet ships. Additional shipbuilding is carried out in other (named) European countries. Only West Germany is excluded from participation in this work, according to the report.

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